

from the concentric moulding observable in the thickened corneous operculum of the West Indian *M. Mani*, Poey.

A redistribution of the species of *Megalomastoma*, grounded on the construction of the operculum, is desirable.

The specimens above referred to occur in my own collection. It is probable that few cabinets besides that of Mr. H. Cuming possess the materials requisite for the work.

August 11, 1859.

*On two new species of American Ant-Thrushes.*

By P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

1. MYRMELASTES PLUMBEUS.

♂. *Nigricanti-plumbeus, alis caudaque obscure nigris; tectricum alarium apicibus albo guttatis; rostro et pedibus nigris.*

♀. *Mari similis, sed corpore toto subtus ferrugineo-rufo.*

Long. tota 6·0, alæ 3·1, caudæ 2·3, rostri a rictu 1·05, tarsi 1·2.

*Hab.* Upper Amazon, Rio Javarri (*Bates*).

*Mus.* Brit., P. L. S.

The British Museum possesses both sexes of this fine, strong Ant-thrush from collections lately transmitted by Mr. Bates from Ega, but originating, I believe, from further up the stream. I have a single male specimen from the same source. The female has so nearly the same general appearance as *Thamnophilus hyperythrus* ♂, that they might easily be confounded at first sight.

2. MYRMELASTES NIGERRIMUS.

*Unicolor nigerrimus, tectricibus alarum superioribus, campterio proximis, albis.*

Long. tota 6·5, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·3, tarsi 1·3.

*Hab.* Upper Amazon (*Bates*).

*Mus.* Brit.

A single example of this bird occurred in the same collection as the former species, and is now in the British Museum. It is quite the same form as *Myrmelastes plumbeus*, with the exception of the bill being slightly shorter and the feet rather stronger. It is marked "Irides black, bill black." It is without doubt a male; and it will be interesting to see the female.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* May 11, 1858.

*On the Habits of Aplysiopterus viridis.*

By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

This animal is not uncommon at this season (August) in Swanage Bay. It is very peculiar in not having any distinctly marked foot, except just a little in front of the narrow acute tip of the tail. When walking on the surface of the vase in which it is contained, it only touches the glass by this end of the tail and the front of the body under the head and tentacles, the rest of the under surface of the body being quite free, at some distance from the glass, and rounded,